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SENATOR MAURSTAD: ...that Nebraska is making a commitment relative to process and operations, but the funding for it is completely coming from the federal government. Now I may be...and would certainly be interested if that is an incorrect assumption. So I think there's a lot of validity to the Wesely amendment. I think it needs some refinement. I think that it needs the sunset provision added back, and I would hope that we would work at that. And then I'm also concerned about the funding and the ability to continue to fund the program in the future, since we're not starting out with General Fund obligation.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. I understand that Senator Witek talked about if you head down this path that we may not be able to change course; that there will be a standard of care through Medicaid that we won't be able to match in the private sector. Well, first off, that's one of the points that we need to understand, and some people see that as a problem. I see that as one of the advantages and reasons why we do want to start off in Medicaid, is they have much broader set of coverage and that it is advantageous to getting children health care. But, nevertheless, should we determine that that's not the course we want to take, if we should determine we want to change course, there is absolutely nothing in our way to doing that at any point between now and the end of the five-year period that there's a commitment by the federal government for this program. I read to you from the question and answer from HCFA, on the Children's Health Insurance Program. The question is asked, if a state initially chooses one option, can the state change to a different option later? The answer, states may expand through one option and switch to a different option at any time, at any time. So you don't need a two-year sunset. You don't need any sunset whatsoever because at any point, if you get dissatisfied, you can pull out. If you want to change course, you can change course. You don't commit yourself eternally by making this choice with this bill. At this point in time, it's the best choice, I think, clearly. We did not sit down and just automatically make this decision. We had a very careful study done of alternatives with advantages and disadvantages looked